

## GISCorps Newsletter

January 6, 2006

Dear Volunteers and Friends of the GISCorps,

2005 was an exciting and busy year for the Core Committee of GISCorps and our dedicated volunteers. We implemented nine missions and deployed a total of 53 volunteers to various regions of the world. The following is a list of completed missions in 2005:

- **February 2005** – [Tsunami mission](#) in partnership with [Global MapAid](#) – Indonesia – **Frank Chang**, South Florida Water Management District - US
- **March 2005** – [Tsunami mission](#) in partnership with [Vietnam Veterans of America](#) & [United Nations Joint Logistic Centre](#) – Indonesia (Jakarta and Banda Ache) – **Paul McKnight**, City of Austin, **Jay Meehl**, St. Mary's University, **Ray DeLeon**, Redevelopment Agency of San Jose, **Heather Milton**, ESRI St. Louise - US, and **Dylan Shaw**, City West Water - Australia
- **March 2005** – [Tsunami mission](#) in partnership with [SeedsIndia](#) & [MapAction](#) (remote project) – **Beni Patel**, Tessellation Inc. (team leader), **Peter Price**, North Harris College and his students (**Sue Burley**, **Douglas Mangum**, and **Randy Andrews**), **Marlen Kokaz**, University of Pennsylvania, **Chandreyee Lahiri**, Comm. Of Massachusetts, **Meredith Williams**, Stanford University, **Dyhan Appachu**, Secon Surveys and **Anand Trivedi**, SFWMD all from US
- **May 2005** – [Kabul mission](#) in partnership with [UNDP Afghanistan Information Management Services \(AIMS\)](#) – Afghanistan – **Shoreh Elhami** from Delaware County Auditor/GIS - US
- **September 2005** – Four Katrina missions – Mississippi and Louisiana – **Matt Cieri**, City of Kissimmee, **Dick Kotapish**, Lake County GIS Dept, **JD Overton**, ESRI St. Louise **Heather Milton**, ESRI St. Louise, **Mark Hollingshead**, ESRI St. Louise, **Kim Holden**, Regional Water Authority, **Sanjeev Arya**, Geodecisions, **Twyla McDermott**, City of Charlotte, **Beni Patel**, Tessellation Inc., **Tom Chatfield**, Northrop-Grumman-BLM, **Wesley Harp**, Vaghan Architects, **Molly Reif**, US EPA/Sobran, **Paul McKnight**, City of Austin, **Bruce Willett**, NY State Dept of Env. Con., **Michelle Alexander**, City of Charlotte, **Ray DeLeon**, Redevelopment Agency of San Jose, **Leeanne Pacatte**, City of Austin, **Sean Bohac**, City of San Diego, **Ann Hooper**, City of Casselberry, **Laura Horton**, US Coast Guard, **Hanna Ford**, Arkansas Game and Fish Com., **Katy Carpenter**, City of Fort Collins, **John Goddard**, City of Fayetteville, **Beth McMillan**, University of Arkansas, **Mary Mekkers**, City of Mobile, **Lucia Barbato**, Texas Tech University, **Mike Smith**, City of San Angelo, **Fred Bevier**, City of Wheaton, **Daniel Juhn**, Conservation International, **Tom Moreland**, Bluegrass Area Dev. Dist., **Sara Szapolsky**, AARP, **Joel Nelson**, University of Minnesota, **Ed Cardenas**, City of Cleveland, all from US
- **October 2005** – [Central America mission](#) in partnership with [Medical Mission Exchange](#) (remote project) – **Clare Brown**, Khafra Engineering (team leader), **Danielle Ayan**, Georgia Tech Center for GIS, and **Lucia Lovison Golob**, Harvard University - from US, **Claudia Caceres**, Forest and Rural Productivity from Honduras, and **Alfred de Jager**, European Commission from Italy

**2006 Projects** – In partnership with [Global Spatial Data Infrastructure](#) (GSDI) Association we will soon begin working on [six new projects](#). These projects will be conducted remotely for six

countries; Namibia, Armenia, Kenya, Hungary, Mali, and Marshall islands. Each of the first three projects will receive up to \$2,500 in GISCorps volunteer services and each of the other three will receive up to \$2,000 in GISCorps volunteer services in addition to a GSDI's \$2,500 grant. The recruitment process will start in early 2006.

Other news:

- GISCorps received the [Service Award](#) from the 2005 [ESRI](#) Health GIS Conference held in Chicago in October 2005.
- Several GISCorps related activities were held at URISA's Annual Conference in Kansas City. Our volunteers took the stage at the conference and shared their experiences with the audience. We also held a successful auction (total proceed at \$1,000). Our sincere thanks go to **Frank Chang, Hilary Perkins, Lucia Barbato, Heather Milton, Jay Meehl, Paul McKnight, Juna Papajorgji, and Shoreh Elhami** who donated items for the auction and especially to the staff of URISA headquarters for their continuous and remarkable support of GISCorps.
- At its December 2005 meeting, URISA Board of Directors approved GISCorps' [Organizing Principles and Policies](#) document.
- We have had several donations from various individuals, companies and educational institutions. Our heartfelt thanks go to those who have selflessly donated to our cause.
- The Core Committee of GISCorps meets (via conference calls) on a monthly basis and the minutes of these calls can be found at: <http://www.giscorps.org/news.php>.

We are truly grateful for your continued support of GISCorps and tremendously excited about the opportunities that lie ahead of us in 2006 and beyond. We wish that the New Year brings peace and joy to all.

Warm Regards,

GISCorps Core Committee,

Shoreh Elhami, Chairperson, Co-founder

Juna Papajorgji, Co-Chair, Co-founder

Martha Lombard, Co-founder

Mark Salling

Frank Chang

[www.giscorps.org](http://www.giscorps.org)

\* If you no longer want to receive GISCorps newsletters, please send us an email at [info@urisa.org](mailto:info@urisa.org).